GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:640
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
NPP AND DRUG PRICING FORMULA
Bose Shri Subrata

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a draft has been prepared by the Government for declaring the National Pharmaceutical Policy, (NPP) 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the policy of drug pricing formula has been opposed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (e): The draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 was prepared keeping in view the comments of various stakeholders including the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). CSIR in its comments on the draft Note had observed, inter alia, that the price control on an increasing number of drugs/formulations may lead to a decrease in the production of essential drugs which might necessitate the import of drugs.

The Cabinet Note on proposed National Pharmaceuticals Policy, 2006 along with views of various Departments was placed before the Cabinet for its consideration/approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11th January, 2007. It was decided that the matter, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GOM). The GOM has since been constituted. The First meeting of the GOM was held on 10.4.2007. The GOM after detailed discussions on various aspects of the Policy would make its recommendations to the Cabinet.